

REMARKS

The present application has been carefully studied and amended in view of the outstanding Office Action dated March 10, 2009; reconsideration of that Action is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

By way of example, the subject application explains that early image (*i.e.*, photo or picture) frames were made from ordinary frames mounted with photographs. *See, Specification, page 1.* The subject application also explains that electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frames having liquid crystal screens have come about more recently. *See, Specification, page 1.* The embodiments of claims 4-9 of the subject application are drawn to such “electronic image frames” (*i.e.*, digital picture frames).

For example, amended claim 4 recites, *inter alia*, “[a] multimode electronic image frame.” Claim 4 has also been amended without prejudice to recite, *inter alia*, “wherein, the electronic image frame displays digital pictures in a digital picture frame mode and displays television programming in a television mode.” Claims 5-9 each ultimately depend from claim 4.

For purposes of completeness, it may be noted support for these amendments may be found throughout the application as originally filed. For example, the subject application explains at page 2 that an electronic image frame can be designed to function as both an electronic image frame (*i.e.*, digital picture frame) and a TV set. The subject application explains at page 8 that when a “player mode” is turned on, information on a memory card is decoded. At page 12, the subject application explains JPEG format images or pictures can be played, and picture previewing, amplification (*i.e.*, zooming) and rotating can be provided for. At pages 6-8, the subject application explains the electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frame can alternatively be switched into a “TV receiving operation mode.” Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully submit the embodiments specifically recited in claim 4 and remaining dependent claims 5-9 are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art taken alone or in combination with one another. For example, claims 4-9 are not rendered obvious by any

combination of Hoshino et al US 6,804,300 ("Hoshino") and Shu et al US 6,598,100 ("Shu"), for at least the following reasons.

Electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frames do not conventionally function as TV sets – they cannot receive and show television programs independently. *See, Specification, page 2.* The embodiment of claims 4-9 of the subject application are drawn to a multimode electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frame that can function as a TV set – as opposed to conventional television audio/visual or personal computing apparatus.

Hoshino fails to teach, or even suggest for that matter, such a multimode electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frame. Instead, Hoshino merely discloses a television audio/visual apparatus that works in combination with and requires a personal computer. *See, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 6,804,300, Brief Summary of the Invention.* Fig 1 of Hoshino (reproduced herein) illustrates such an apparatus and personal computer combination.

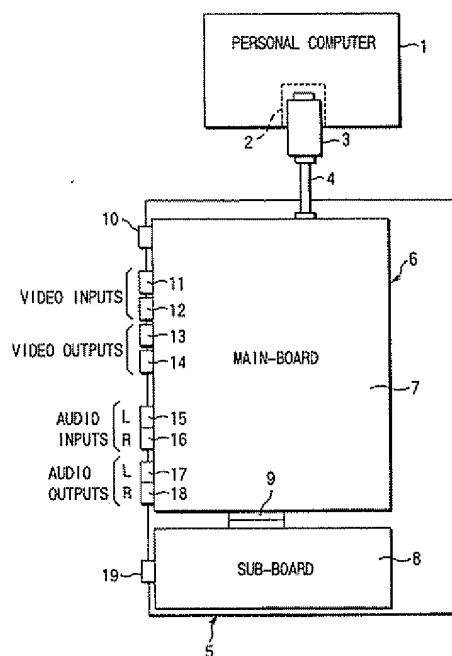


FIG. 1

Personal computer 1 includes a PCMCIA slot 2, housing a PCMCIA card 3. Card 3 is coupled to digital video box 5 via adaptor interface 4. Digital video box 5 includes a digital video board 6 and a power sub-board 8.

Neither a digital video box nor a personal computer, no less the combination thereof using a PCMCIA socket and card, are or equate to an electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frame – no less the particularly recited multimode digital picture frame of claim 4. For example, personal computers are general purpose computing devices typically having substantial computing/storage resources that support a wide variety of applications. In contrast, electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frames conventionally have more limited computing/storage resources that provide only particular, relatively unsophisticated functionality, *e.g.*, JPEG image/photo playback. A personal computer is not a digital picture frame at all – no less the particularly recited frame of claim 4.

Further, the personal computer of Hoshino lacks the recited TV functionality of the frame of claim 4. Indeed it must be supplemented with digital video box 5 to provide for television functionality. Yet, the substantial resources of the personal computer are leveraged to help support audio/visual content. As discussed, a digital picture frame is not typically so versatile or well provisioned, such that it is, at best, unclear how such a digital video box could be used with the limited resources of a digital picture frame. In short, the combined personal computer and digital video box of Hoshino are clearly not and cannot equate to a digital picture frame at all – no less the particularly recited frame of claim 4.

For purposes of completeness, it may be noted Shu similarly fails to teach or suggest an electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frame. *See, e.g., U.S. Pat. 6,598,100, Title.* And, further that Shu is not relied upon in these regards in the asserted rejections.

Accordingly, as Hoshino and Shu each, and also in any combination, fail to teach or suggest the recited multimode electronic image (*i.e.*, digital picture) frame of claim 4, reconsideration and removal of the asserted rejections is respectfully requested. Reconsideration and removal of the rejections of claims 5-9 is also requested, at least by virtue of these claims' ultimate dependency upon a patentably distinct base claim 4.

Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 13836-00003-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

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